

Section I (Amendments to the Claims)

Please amend claims 14 and 17, and add new claims 21 and 22, as set out in the following listing of the claims of the application.

1. (Previously presented) A method for producing a cellulosic form that releases active agents in an amount that reaches equilibrium in an aqueous solution, the method comprising: incorporating within a cellulosic solution a weakly linked cation-active ion exchanger loaded with bactericide metal ions and/or with ionic, pharmaceutic agents in such a manner, that a depot of said agents is created within the fiber and that said depot releases the agents in an amount of the equilibration concentration upon application of these fibers or foils in aqueous solutions.
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the weakly linked, cation-active ion exchanger is a poly-acrylate.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the metal ions comprise silver ions.
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising additional bactericidally active metal ions, comprising copper ions, mercury ions, zirconium ions or zinc ions.
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the ionic pharmaceutic agents are anion-active agents comprising benzoic acid or sorbic acid.
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the active agents is in the range of 0.005 g to 100 g per kg of the cellulosic form.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the cellulosic form is a fibre, which has been loaded with active agents, blended with textile fibers and processed into fabric.
8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the textile fibers are selected from the group consisting of cotton fibers, wool fibers, polyester-fibers, polyamide-fibers, polyacryl-fibers, polypropylene-fibers and cellulosic synthetic fibers.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the cellulosic form further comprises cation-active and/or anion-active ion-exchangers.
10. (Previously presented) A cellulosic form, characterised in that said form contains weakly linked cation-active ion exchangers, wherein the ion exchanger is loaded with bactericidal metal ions and/or ionic pharmaceutic agents and that said form releases in aqueous solutions the metal ions and/or agents at a concentration corresponding to the current equilibration concentration.
11. (Previously presented) The cellulosic form according to claim 10, wherein the metal ions comprise silver ions.
12. (Previously presented) The cellulosic form according to claim 11, wherein the form is a fiber and is intermixed with a compatible material to form a mixture.
13. (Previously presented) The cellulosic form according to claim 12, wherein the mixture is used to form a paper, a sausage casing or a non-woven fabric.
14. (Currently amended) [[A]] The cellulosic form of claim 10, comprising a lyocell-type cellulosic form containing an active agent that is released from the material relative to the concentration of the active agent in an aqueous solution contacting the material, the material comprising:
~~a mixture of a cellulosic material, said bactericidal metal ion and/or ionic pharmaceutic agents~~
~~active agent~~ and a polymeric resin with cross-linkers in an amount from about 0.1 to 2.0 weight % of the resin and wherein the amount of said bactericidal metal ion and/or ionic pharmaceutic agents ~~active agent~~ in the material is proportional to the amount of polymeric resin ~~in the mixture~~.
15. (Previously presented) The lyocell-type cellulosic form according to claim 14, wherein the polymeric resin is polyacrylate and the active agent is silver ions.
16. (Previously presented) The lyocell-type cellulosic form according to claim 15, wherein the form is a fiber for producing a woven or a non-woven fabric.
17. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method of claim 1, wherein said cellulosic form comprises producing a lyocell-type cellulosic form containing an active agent that is released

~~from the material relative to the concentration in an aqueous solution contacting the material, the~~
method comprising:

providing a cellulosic material comprising cellulose homogenized in N-methylmorpholine-N-oxide monohydrate;

mixing in a polyacrylate polymer in a form that is intermixed with the cellulosic material;

forming cellulosic/polymer fibres;

removing residual N-methylmorpholine-N-oxide monohydrate from the cellulosic/polymer fibres;

contacting the cellulosic/polymer fibers to a solution of silver nitrate for a sufficient time to load the cellulosic/polymer fibers with silver ions in an amount proportional to the amount of polyacrylate polymer introduced into the cellulosic material.

18. (Previously presented) The cellulosic form according to claim 11, further comprising one or more additional bactericidally active metal ions comprising copper ions, mercury ions, zirconium ions or zinc ions.

19. (Previously presented) The cellulosic form according to claim 10, wherein the ionic pharmaceutic agents are anion-active agents comprising benzoic acid or sorbic acid.

20. (Previously presented) The cellulosic form according to claim 10, wherein the concentration of the active agents is in the range of 0.005 g to 100 g per kg of the cellulosic form.

21. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the cellulosic form comprises a lyocell-type cellulosic form.

22. (New) The cellulosic form according to claim 10, wherein the cellulosic form comprises a lyocell-type cellulosic form.